

II. REMARKS


This amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed June 17, 2006, the period in which to respond has been extended to and including September 17, 2006 by the accompanying petition for a retroactive three-month extension of time, wherein: (1) Claims 1, 3, 4 and 6-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Japanese Patent No. 9-153380 and (2) Claims 2 and 5 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

By the present amendment, applicants have cancelled Claims 2 and 7 and have amended Claims 1, 3, 4, and 5. Claims 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 2 so it and its dependent claims should now be allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

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